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The Kingdom

Introduction:

Currently in Global Studies we are studying the Middle Eastern region and so to tie into our lesson we decided to watch a movie called *The Kingdom*. This movie revolves around, the Middle Eastern country, Saudi Arabia. It focuses on the relation between America and Saudi Arabia, as well as the rivalries between certain groups that act negatively towards Americans.

Summary:

*The Kingdom* revolves around U.S. citizens, who are members of the FBI, that travel to Saudi Arabia, after an attack from a group targeting American residents, to discover what started this whole scenario. Jaime Foxx’s character, Ronald Fleury, is the head within this group. [Ashraf Barhom](http://www.imdb.com/name/nm1678557/) plays [Colonel Faris Al Ghazi](http://www.imdb.com/character/ch0029881/) in the film and is in charge of overlooking the Americans during their visit, as well as protecting them from the ones who want them dead. [Jason Bateman](http://www.imdb.com/name/nm0000867/)’s character, [Adam Leavitt](http://www.imdb.com/character/ch0029880/), is captured by the murderous group and from there the plot really excels because now you have the Americans in a full out pursuit to recover Bateman. The fighting represented in this scene shows exemplary work among the cast and crew involved.

Impact on Viewer:

A scene that impacts the viewer’s outlook on the Middle East’s society could be when the American group first goes outside in Saudi Arabia to see the damage caused by the incident. From this scene you could clearly see all of the destruction. Buildings were destroyed from explosions, and to begin with some buildings weren’t built well structured. All of the damage in that area of the incident will need repairs, and who would know how long that would take or even how much it would take to repair.

Favorite Scene:

My favorite scene of the movie, *The Kingdom*, would probably have to be the scene where all the Americans try to save Jason Bateman’s character. Jennifer Gardner’s character, Janet Mayes, attacks the men who have taken Bateman. She ends up rescuing him after taking down several dangerous men, and she accomplished this mostly by herself. This seen impacted my views on the Middle East because I did not know that they had very well built weapons when indeed their weapons are at high-relevance compared to some that we contain. Also, throughout this scene I could view the act of hatred, towards the Americans, displayed by some Arabs.

Favorable Impression:

A favorable impression shown about the Middle East through this movie would be the helpful military of Saudi Arabia who helped protect the Americans while they were there investigating. In the movie the character [Colonel Faris Al Ghazi](http://www.imdb.com/character/ch0029881/) went everywhere with the Americans and wouldn’t let them do anything without his permission to try and protect them from enemies. When it was time for the Americans to rest up they would lock them in a gymnasium to make sure they were safe.

Unfavorable Impression:

The scene from The Kingdom that showed an unfavorable impression towards the Middle East would probably have to be the opening scene where they first started killing the Americans over in Saudi Arabia. It displayed how uncaring some of the world is and that was directly portrayed over in the Middle East. In this scene it showed the explosion of an ambulance, in my opinion that is extremely cruel because in the midst of trying to help the injured people more people ended up dying.

Conclusion:

In conclusion this movie shows both negative and positive aspects of the Middle East. It also helped tie into our lesson plan for our current topic. This movie gave us a better grasp of how America is portrayed in other countries and the connections between our country and others.